



31 Oct 73

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Honorable Henry A. Kissinger  
Assistant to the President for National  
Security Affairs

Some of our people have been looking into what Arab-Israeli wars have cost the Soviets, with the attached results. The paper is divided into a brief section of the cost of the current war, followed by a discussion of the cost of past wars and aid programs to the belligerent Arab states in general. Please note that the figures are Soviet export list prices and not the estimated dollar cost of reproducing this equipment in the US; the latter may be considerably higher.

*151, Bill*  
W. E. Colby  
Director

JW/WEC:jlp

Distribution:

Original - Addressee w/att.  
1 - WEC  
1 - DDCI  
✓ 1 - ER  
1 - DDI

Identical memos to: SecDef Schlesinger, Adm. Thomas Moorer, CHM. JCS,  
William P. Clements, Jr., Deputy SecDef,  
Kenneth Rush, Deputy SecState

*S-17.3*

Executive Registry

73-6793

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director

Attached is the paper you requested on the cost of the Arab-Israeli wars. The paper is divided into a brief section on the cost of the current war and a section on the cost of past wars and aid programs to the belligerent Arab States in general. It was prepared by OER and coordinated with OSR and OCI.



Paul V. Walsh  
ADDI

Attachment  
cc: DDCI

30 Oct 1973  
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101  
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

The Cost to the USSR of the Arab-Israeli Wars

The Cost of the Current War

1. Preliminary analysis on the cost to the USSR of the recent Arab-Israeli war indicates that it will run about \$1 billion if Moscow replaces all the Arab war losses.\* This is over twice the estimated cost of the 1967 Arab-Israeli War.

2. Arab equipment losses are estimated to be at least

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Valued at Soviet export prices this equipment would be worth about \$500 million (see Table 1). This estimate does not include a value for ammunition expended, or captured and destroyed artillery, armored personnel carriers, vehicles, quartermaster supplies and surface-to-air missile equipment because information on these losses is not yet available. When the final tally of war losses is compiled it will probably approach the \$900 million level.

\* These are Soviet export list prices and not the estimated dollar cost of reproducing this equipment in the US.

25X1

25X1

25X1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SC No. 08941/73  
Copy No. 2

4. Arab manpower losses, along with their general need for technical training will necessitate additional Soviet assistance. An increase in the number of Arab military personnel undergoing training in the USSR is expected. Additional Soviet military advisors probably will be stationed in Egypt and Syria. The costs involved may run as high as \$100 million over the next few years.

5. Support to military related industries and for petroleum products will not be major factors in the Soviet cost. and e

25X1

- 2 -

**Next 5 Page(s) In Document Exempt**